

McLaurin and the Committee.

Comptroller General Durham Expresses an Opinion on the Situation.

Hon. John P. Derham, comptroller general of South Carolina, spent last night and a part of yesterday in the city on his way to Columbia. Mr. Derham visited The Chronicle and spent the greater part of his time viewing points of interest in and around the city. Mr. Derham was very much pleased with the business portion of the city and spoke in very high terms of the cotton mill section, making flattering comparisons between this city's enterprises and those of the same nature in Columbia. He was especially pleased with the development of the water power in Augusta and thinks important points in South Carolina would profit by following the example set by Augusta.

Speaking of South Carolina politics, Mr. Derham said things are rather quiet now, except for what excitement has been caused by the action taken by the democratic executive committee in connection with the McLaurin matter, and that even this is not causing very much of a stir just yet, though the announcement of the resolution adopted by the committee was like the explosion of bombshells in the heretofore little disturbed political camp.

From the talk of Mr. Derham it would seem that there is now a McLaurin and a Tillman element in South Carolina and the situation is such that Tillman cannot take an active part in the fight against McLaurin, even though he would like to do so. Mr. Derham says there is no issue between these two men since the governor has declined to accept their resignation and let them both run for the same term in the United States senate, and that the situation is brought down to a fight between the Tillman element and the McLaurin element and not between Tillman and McLaurin. He admits that the senior senator would like to get on the stump against McLaurin, but that there is no opening for him to do so, at least at present there is none, and McLaurin is too wise a man to allow an opening to exist in which Tillman could fight him now, during the off political year, and thus weaken and exhaust McLaurin before the real fight comes on.

Mr. Derham does not place the same construction on the action of the democratic committee at its last meeting as is placed on it by some outsiders. Mr. Derham said that the press reports read that McLaurin had been ruled out of the democratic party by the committee, which is not a fact. He construes the request of the committee to Mr. McLaurin for his resignation to mean something entirely different.

Mr. Derham said that McLaurin was elected on one platform and his constituents in South Carolina believed he was standing on a different one in the senate; that they did not approve of his actions and that for twelve months the people themselves had not an opening in which to make expression of their opinions on the junior senator's official acts while he had the same space of time in which to make speeches all over the state. The democratic executive committee, as the representative of the democratic party of South Carolina, felt it incumbent upon them to make some expression of their opinions on these actions, and this expression was in the shape of the motion sprung at the meeting of the committee in Columbia a short while ago.

Mr. Derham said that all talk of the resolution being a thing prepared before hand was a mistake.

Mr. Derham's expression summed up is that the request by the committee is fuel to the fire that is soon to come, that it does not materially affect McLaurin now. He says that a terrible influence will be brought to bear against the junior senator and does not believe that he will be elected, but whether he is elected or defeated, it cannot be attributed to the fact that he was asked by the executive committee to resign.

Mr. Derham's opinion is that the fact that there is little doing in the political broil now it is an indication that both sides are piling up ammunition and when the fighting begins it will come in a hurry and will be one of the hottest times the Palmetto State has ever seen.—Augusta Chronicle.

Alabama Adopts Grandfather Suffrage.

Montgomery, Ala., July 30.—The constitutional convention today adopted section 4 of the suffrage articles which includes the "grandfather clause" and other qualifications for the electorate, but not until Mr. Lowe, of Jefferson, who is the chairman of the State Democratic committee had made a sensational speech denouncing the whole scheme. The amendment of former Gov. Oates to exclude deserters and sons of deserters from the benefits of the grandfather clause was under consideration when Mr. Lowe arising to a point of personal privilege began to repudiate the charge that he had assailed the black belt counties of Alabama. He declared that he stood with Senators Pettus and Morgan against the suffrage plan and that no delegate of the convention, not even the president, could occupy the seats of these two distinguished Alabamians. He stated deliberately that it was plainly evident that the purpose of the committee was to perpetrate fraud in Alabama, notwithstanding the chairman of the committee, Judge Coleman, had worn the ermine of the State.

He said the people of the State are in open revolt against the plan of the majority and reminded the majority of the convention that it would need the delegates in the minority.

New York, July 31.—The Evening Post says that the extra dividend declared recently by the First National Bank of the Republic, was 1,900 per cent. on the capital stock of \$500,000. This dividend was more than large enough to enable the stockholders to pay for their share of the new stock to be issued on the increase of the bank's capital to \$10,000,000 without the outlay of other cash.

LORD ROBERTS CRITICIZED.

Bitter Feeling Displayed by Minority in Commons but he is Granted Half a Million.

London, July 31.—In the house of commons today proposing a resolution granting Field Marshal Earl Roberts £100,000 for his services in South Africa, A. J. Balfour, the government leader, in the course of a eulogy of the field marshal, whom he compared with such men as Collingwood, Nelson, Marlborough and Wellington, said there was no doubt that but for Lord Roberts' daring and strategy, and the rapidity with which his plans were carried out Kimberly and Mafeking would have fallen, 11,000 British would have been starved into submission at Ladysmith and there would have been a general rising of disloyalists in South Africa. Great Britain might have recovered therefrom, but at what a cost? The country was saved from this by the genius of the man he now invited the house to reward by a unanimous vote, irrespective of political differences. The statement called forth protests from the Irish members.

The Liberal leader, Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, concurred in the motion.

John Dillon, Irish nationalist, strongly opposed the vote. He protested against mentioning Lord Roberts in association with such a man as Marlborough. He declared Lord Roberts had shown the greatest inhumanity in South Africa and said he had employed barbarous methods and had proved himself a dismal failure. Mr. Labouchere, radical, protested against granting gratuities to military men while nothing was given to civilians who were doing something for the benefit of their country.

Keir Hardie, socialist and independent labor, took a similar view. He declared that in the opinion of experts at home and abroad, Lord Roberts' failure primarily was responsible for the continuance of the war.

Swift MacNeill, Irish nationalist, said he considered Lord Roberts' operations were conducted with a maximum of cruelty and a minimum of humanity and that his farewell speech at Cape Town was horrible hypocrisy and blasphemy.

After further debate for and against the measure Mr. Balfour moved the closure which was carried by 257 to 108 votes. The resolution was afterwards adopted by a vote of 251 to 73.

Wood Says Cuba is Garden Spot.

New York, July 31.—Gen. Leonard Wood, military governor of Cuba, who is now on board the dispatch boat Kanawaha and preparing for a cruise along the coast of New England, said today in discussing Cuban affairs:

"Cuba is a totally undeveloped island and has a great future before it. Yellow fever, that great bugbear of our people in the south, in another year will cease to be epidemic. We have not had a single case of yellow fever at Havana this summer and none in eastern Cuba for two years past.

"Cuba's resources require capital for development. The last enormous sugar crop was raised on 8 per cent of the entire sugar producing land. Only this small per centage is under cultivation. We have \$1,500,000 in our reserve fund and can pay all our debts and get out of Cuba within the next eight months. We have established 3,300 flourishing schools.

Two years ago we were obliged to provide over 100 orphan asylums to protect the destitute children, since then we have abolished 60 and expect to be able to close more before we retire from the management of Cuban affairs. Our troops have been well cared for and their health compares favorably with that of the troops in this country, showing that the island is healthy. They camp out and take practice similar to those of other troops of the army, and in every way their condition and behavior has been admirable. The municipal governments are in order. The judiciary is entirely reformed and is satisfactory to the people. The people are gentle and easily governed. They are affectionate and tractable. Beggars are never seen. The products of nature are so liberal that the wants of nature are easily satisfied."

THE LAND LOTTERY.

El Reno, O. T., July 31.—Two thousand one hundred names were drawn from each wheel in the great United States land lottery today, making the grand total 8,700. The list of prize winners will be completed to-morrow. The drawing of numbers will continue until about 10,000 names for each district shall be drawn from the wheel, making a total of 20,000. As there are about 13,500 claims in the new country, the drawing of 20,000 will go beyond the point where persons above 13,500 can get land. The remaining envelopes will draw blanks, but as the commission desires to impress the public with the fairness and honesty of the drawing, everyone of the 165,000 envelopes will be drawn. When the names entitled to homesteads, however, have been exhausted the work to follow will be merely perfunctory and will be done as rapidly as possible.

ILLINOIS TRAIN ROBBERS.

Chicago, July 31.—The Baltimore and Ohio passenger train from the east, which was due to arrive in the Grand Central station, Chicago, at 9 o'clock tonight, was held up by five masked men at 8 o'clock between Edgemoor and Grand Calumet Heights, Indiana, 31 miles out from Chicago. One of the mail cars which contained no money, was dynamited and wrecked. The attempt at robbery was made after the two mail cars had been detached from the train and run a quarter of a mile head. The failure of the robbers to make a rich haul was due to the fact that the express car, which contained the train's treasure, was in an unusual place. It was the third car in the train. After wrecking the mail car and obtaining no booty, the robbers disappeared in the darkness without attempting to rectify their mistake. The only loot that they carried away with them as a result of their adventure was the gold watch of the engineer.

Two Women and a Man Lynched.

Carrollton, Miss., Aug. 1.—The murder of Mr. and Mrs. Taliaferro culminated tonight in the lynching of Bettie McCray her son Belfield McCray, and daughter Ida McCray, all colored.

The mob was composed of about 50 white citizens of Carroll county, who marched to the jail in order, demanded the keys from Jailer Duke, proceeded to the cells of the unfortunate negroes, bound them by the neck and hands and carried them to the corporate limits of the town, where they hung them to a tree by the public roadside and riddled their bodies with bullets.

The mob resisted the earnest appeals of Judge W. F. Stephens and Hon. W. S. Hill, who stood on the steps of the jail and appealed to the mob in the name of law and order. They even followed the mob to the cell doors with their arms round the necks of the leaders, pleading to let the law take its course, but with no effect.

Ida McCray confessed to the knowledge of the murder, and stated that her mother Bettie and brother Belfield helped commit the murder. She further implicated others who will probably meet a like fate. Bettie McCray refused to make any statement.

Gov. A. H. Longino arrived on the scene by special train from Jackson just a few minutes after the hanging.

HINTS TO FARMERS.

Aberdeen (Miss.) Examiner: "If you think it possible that you will have to buy corn next year, that is the strongest of all arguments in favor of saving every ton of hay that you can, for the hay will almost certainly bring you \$10 a ton, and the price of a ton of it will pay for ten bushels of corn at \$1.05 and two-thirds bushels at \$1.50 or more than two barrels of flour, thus easily solving to a large extent the bread question for a small family. We believe that there will be few farmers in this county who will not make corn to do them, but have little doubts as to rain and sun enough to make a full hay crop."

Granade Sentinel: "It is the resourceful and wise farmer who ceases to mourn the loss of his corn crop and turns his affections to cow peas. The East Mississippi Times advises all farmers to plant cow peas, if we get rain this month, to make up for the short corn crop. We need to learn that corn is an expensive crop at best. Peas, millet, potatoes, sorghum, etc., can be raised with half the expense of corn, and will do better in feeding stock. The Mississippi farmer is bound to his idols; it seems that he will have to 'let him alone,' but we would be glad if he could be sufficiently awakened to the fact that ours is not a corn state; a very small proportion of our lands are suitable for it. But we can raise a cow or a hog as cheap as in any section of the country if we go into grazing and the planting of small grain and root crops. We can also make cotton. A crazy negro with a one-eyed mule, can make it, because the plant is adapted to our section."

The Chinese Indemnity.

Washington, July 29.—Dispatches received by cable from Mr. Rockhill, the United States special commissioner at Peking, set out some of the details of the financial arrangement respecting the indemnity not heretofore disclosed. He reports that the interest on the indemnity began to run on the 1st of July of this year and the payments will become due semi-annually, the first to be met January 1st next. China will be allowed three years before making the first payment on account of the principal of the indemnity. The moneys, both on account of principal and interest, will be received by a financial committee located at Shanghai to be known as the "committee of encashment." This will be composed of the heads of foreign banks at Shanghai, selected by the governments interested in the payments. The committee is to distribute the funds turned in by the Chinese government among the various powers in proportion to the interest payments due them.

The diplomatic corps at Peking favor the immediate application of the new tariff, the effect of which will be to abolish the free list except as to cereals. Mr. Rockhill has been instructed by the state department to urge the exemption from the new rates of cargoes now afloat. He is also to try to secure a postponement of the application of the tariff until importers have had an opportunity to complete contracts.

"CONTINUE FIGHTING!"

London, August 2.—A dispatch from Standerton, Transvaal, dated July 5, which had been stopped by the censor, has just been received here. It reads:

"Walter Kitchener met Louis Botha and his secretary, DeWet, by appointment, near Platt Rand, a few days ago. They brought Kruger's reply to Botha's surrender proposal. It was: 'Botha, DeWet, De Laey, Steyn: Continue fighting. Alleviation will be sent when needed. Enough for the present.'"

London, August 3.—The Boers who are invading Portuguese territory, says the Lourenço Marques correspondent of the Daily Mail, "number 500. They crossed the line near Nanetzei and are now going northward toward Komatipoort. A Swiss farmer reports that his farm buildings have been burned and his stock has been driven off, and that his wife and servants are missing. Although the Portuguese authorities are preparing to make a vigorous resistance, only 144 men, under Capt. Almeida, are pursuing the Boers."

London, August 3.—The Cape Town correspondent of the Daily Mail, in a communication dated July 17, places the strength of the Boers in Cape Colony between 7,000 and 8,000 men, almost all of whom are rebels.

The Daily Mail contrasts this with the official statement not long ago that there were only 1,000.

"The colonial authorities," the correspondent continues, "have just awakened to the possibility that the last shot in the war may be fired in Cape Colony and unless vigorous efforts are put forth there is nothing to prevent the Boers from holding out another twelve months."

What Wade Hampton Thinks.

A correspondent of the Spartanburg Journal met Gen. Hampton in that city on his way to the mountains and reports an interesting conversation with the old hero, in which he made it very plain that he is very far from sympathizing with the McLaurinites. He is just an ordinary, everyday democrat, without any frills or furbelows, and is content to remain inside the party which he has served with ability and fidelity in the past. The position of Hampton is a stinging rebuke to the modern lights who have discovered the pathway to the Republican party, for which they are now heading with unerring certainty.

I had a short chat with Gen. Wade Hampton at the Southern depot yesterday afternoon as he passed through the city from Columbia on his way to the mountains of North Carolina where he intends to spend the remainder of the summer. This grand old statesman, who has done more for South Carolina than any other man alive today, was in the best of health and spirits. One of the General's chief charms is his readiness to talk about anything that concerns himself or the State in which he has made such a glorious record. "This is a commercial Democratic town, I believe," remarked General Hampton with a smile when the subject of politics was broached. When assured that such was not altogether the case, he assumed a more serious attitude and speaking slowly and earnestly said further: "No, I think McLaurin will not be elected again. He has deserted all the vital principals that have been incorporated in every Democratic platform since the formation of the party, and I venture the assertion that not a Democratic Senator at Washington will say that McLaurin is justified in styling himself Democrat. If I were in politics I would not give him my support. You see I have always voted the Democratic ticket, and after having worked so many years in the interest of that party it would not become me at this stage of life, do you think, to transform myself into a Republican. I am now on my way to my summer home at Sapphire, N. C., where I hope to regain some lost strength occasioned by an attack of grip two weeks ago. The people back in South Carolina can have barbecues and speakings and conventions to their heart's content. As to myself, I am going to a pleasant spot up in the Blue Ridge mountains and devote the next two months to keeping cool and being happy."

The Cuban Convention.

Havana, August 2.—The Cuban Constitutional Convention today began to consider separately the provisions of the electoral bill, taking up first of all the qualifications of candidates for the posts of Provincial Governor, provincial councillor, Senatorial elector and Presidential elector. These provisions were adopted as embodied in the project submitted, except that in order to become the Governor of a province or a provincial councillor it is not necessary that the candidate be the father of a family, or a taxpayer in the province, or the possessor of a degree, or that he should have held public office by virtue of popular election.

The question was raised as to whether the Convention had the right to settle an electoral dispute. Senor Sangulilly maintained that this function belonged to the military government. The Convention did not vote on this matter.

There was also some discussion regarding the freedom of Presidential electors to vote for whom they choose. Senor Sangulilly maintained that it would be better to elect the President by the direct vote of the people than to have the electors bound to vote for a special candidate. He favored a change in the Constitution in this respect.

As a result of the discussion of a Governor Representative, provincial Legislator or Presidential elector, the Convention decided the candidate must be either of Cuban birth or naturalized, with residence of eight years in Cuba after the naturalization.

Mr. Lever Also Resigns.

In the Lexington Dispatch of this week Mr. A. F. Lever announces his candidacy for congress in the seventh district, and in doing so takes occasion to resign his seat as a member of the house of representatives from his county. Thus far Mr. Brantley is the only candidate who has qualified with the State executive committee and Mr. Lever and Mr. Brantley are the only two of the office-holding candidates who have resigned their positions. There are two other avowed candidates who are holding public office, but it is not known whether they will resign before the race opens or not. If they do not they have good precedent for not doing so.—State, Aug. 2.

Columbus, O., Aug. 2.—Cresceus, champion of the trotting turf, added more laurels to his fame today by trotting a mile in 2:02½, reducing by a half second his week-old record of 2:03½, made at Cleveland last Friday. The first half was trotted in 59¾, the first time that distance has been covered in less than one minute by a trotter. The time by quarters was 29¾, 59¾, 1:30¼ and 2:02¼. Only a stiff wind blowing directly up the track kept Cresceus from stepping faster than 2:02.

London, Aug. 1.—The house of Lords today unanimously voted the grant of £100,000 for Lord Roberts recommended by King Edward, as a token of the nation's appreciation of the field marshal's services in South Africa.

Trenton, N. J., Aug. 1.—The Southern Cotton Oil company today filed papers increasing its capital stock from \$200,000 to \$11,000,000. The papers were signed by Samuel T. Morgan president and Allan H. Harris, secretary.

Orleans, Ind., Aug. 1.—Heise & Sons' flouring mill at Saltville, nine miles east of here, burned during the night. Several days ago the proprietors of the mill found a note informing them that unless they put a certain sum of money in a sack and left it at a given point their mill would be burned. A sack filled with buggy washers was deposited, and men lay in wait several hours, but no person approached the sack. It disappeared shortly, however, and the mill was burned to the ground during the night.

FROM THE WIRES.

Habana, July 31.—After a lively debate today the Cuban constitutional convention adopted the electoral commission bill submitted by the committee as a whole. Discussion of the various articles will now begin.

Bristol, Tenn., July 31.—A large portion of the natural tunnel in Scott county through which passes the Virginia and Southwestern road, has fallen in. A temporary track has been laid, however, and trains are again passing through.

El Paso, Tex., July 31.—At Gleason, Ariz., Jack Koen, who it is believed belongs to a prominent Boston family, was shot and instantly killed today by Constable Moore. Koen was accused of aiding a prisoner who was attempting to escape from Moore.

Manila, July 31.—Lieut. Croft of the Nineteenth infantry, with a mounted detachment of Cebu scouts, has had an encounter with 60 insurgents. Seven of the rebels were killed and 13 taken prisoners. Of Lieut. Croft's force two privates were slightly wounded.

Rome, Ga., July 31.—V. T. Sanford, tax collector of Floyd county, was indicted by the grand jury this afternoon upon charges of embezzlement. It is alleged in the indictment that Sanford is short \$34,249: \$15,423 being due the State of Georgia and \$18,825 to Floyd county. A guarantee company of Baltimore is on Mr. Sanford's bond for \$125,000. The bond company claims they are not liable for the reason that the county authorities were negligent in checking Mr. Sanford's books. Mr. Sanford has held the office for years and has been prominent in local and State politics.

Washington, July 31.—The state department today received the following telegram from the American legation at Caracas: "Martial law has been declared in Venezuela by the President of the country in consequence of the invasion of a revolutionary force from Colombia. It is reported that an army of 10,000 men will meet the invaders."

Jackson, Miss., July 31.—R. T. Taliaferro and wife, of Carroll county, were found dead in bed today with their heads split open. It is thought the murder was committed by negroes out of revenge for the recent killing of a colored man who attempted to poison the family.

New York, July 31.—From a special canvass just finished by the Journal of Commerce it appears that the condition of cotton is 75.3. This represents decline of 17 points compared with the same paper's special report published on July 1, a year ago. The investigation was made through special correspondents whose reports cover dates from July 23 to 30, both inclusive, and may be accepted as representing an average date of July 25-26.

Willemstad, Island of Curacao, July 31.—Doctor Rangel Gardiras, at the head of 5,000 men, has revolted against President Castro of Venezuela. The insurgents are near San Antonio de Tachira, on the Colombian frontier. The Venezuelan government has sent 10,000 troops to the scene of the uprising. The situation is grave. Other outbreaks are expected. The whole country is ready to rise against President Castro. Constitutional guarantees have been suspended and complications with Colombia are feared.

Washington, July 31.—Madame Rita L. De Ruiz, widow of the American dentist who was killed by the Spanish authorities in Cuba just before the outbreak of the Spanish war, today filed before the Spanish claims commission a claim for \$75,000 damages by reason of her husband's death.

San Francisco, July 30.—The labor trouble in this city reached a crisis today. Maritime traffic and labor along shore are nearly at a standstill and industries are almost totally paralyzed. The order for a general walkout of the City Front Federation which comprises 14 unions and organizations with a full membership of about 15,000 was very effective this morning. Three thousand of these men are employed at sea or in other cities and the strike does not apply to them until they return to San Francisco. Twelve thousand men obeyed the order today.

Toledo, Ohio, July 30.—This morning when the turnkey entered the county jail with the prisoners breakfast he was held up at the muzzles of two revolvers and locked in a cell. John Brown, alias "Topeka Joe," Thomas Keegan and James Stewart, all held for robbery of the West Toledo postoffice, and David Morgan, a local prisoner, then marched out of jail, and so far have not been caught.

Durban, Natal, July 30.—Details received here of what at first seemed an ordinary skirmish between a British column and a Boer commando near Nouta, July 28, shows that a hard all day fight occurred in which the British narrowly escaped the loss of a gun of the Sixty seventh field battery. Four hundred Boers repeatedly rushed the British position, killing Major Edwards and Gunner Carpenter. The gun was limbered up and taken at a gallop for three miles under heavy fire. Five British were killed.

An old colored preacher in the rural districts accounted for the lightning in this way:

"Ever" time Satan looks down en sees de Lawd's work gwine on, fire flashes f'om his eyes. Dat's de lightning. En w'en he fail ter hit a church wid it, he lays back en hollers. Dat's de thunder.

"But parson," said an old deacon, "wha' is Satan in de winter time? We don't 'tave no lightnin' den?"

The preacher studied a minute and said:

"Well, hit may be, Br'er Williams, dat hell's froze over den!"—Atlanta Constitution.

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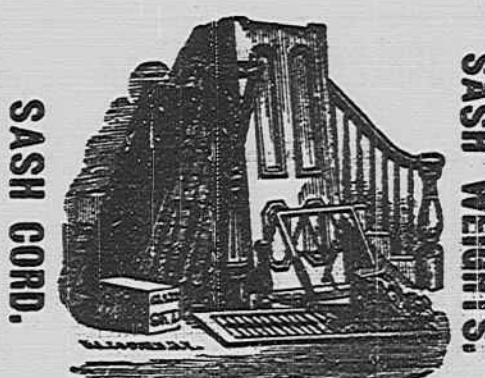
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